



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Burundi

President Ready To Resign if Consensus Eroded

AB1901135095 Dakar PANA in English 1159 GMT
19 Jan 95

[By Ferdinand Bigumandondera]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Burundi (PANA)—Burundi's prime minister, Anatole Kanyenkiko, says he is ready to resign if the government-opposition consensus over his position has eroded. Speaking on Burundi television Wednesday [18 January] night, Kanyenkiko refuted allegations that he wants to cling to his post contrary to the wishes of his party, the National Union for Progress (Uprona).

Uprona, Burundi former sole political party, was angered by Kanyenkiko's handling of the crisis generated by the election of Jean Minani as parliamentary speaker. This anger has been expressed in a confidential letter written by Uprona chairman, Charles Mukasi and dated 2 January.

"Your actions are likely to divide and destroy the Uprona party and you are well aware of that," said part of the letter. The letter claimed that in the Minani affair, the prime minister ranged himself against Uprona by advocating continued dialogue while the party leadership was going for tougher actions.

Kanyenkiko has been prime minister by virtue of a consensus struck by the ruling Frodebu [Front for Democracy in Burundi] and Uprona on 10 September 1994 under which the head of cabinet should come from a party other than that of the incumbent president. He stayed on as prime minister although six Uprona ministers pulled out soon after Minani's election as speaker on 1 December 1994. These ministers rejoined the cabinet last Monday at an extraordinary session devoted to the 1995 budget.

Minister Announces Curfew in Northern Region

EA2201185295 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 22 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The minister of the interior and public security, Mr. Jean-Baptiste Manwangari, has just issued a statement. According to a decision of the Council of Ministers, supported by a meeting of security bodies which took place in Kirundo this Sunday, 22 January, the minister of interior announces that it is an offense to venture outside anywhere in the Province of Kirundo between 1900 in the evening and 0500 in the morning. He urges all the citizens to abide by the decision.

The minister of the interior and public security, accompanied by the minister of defense and the secretary of state in charge of security, went to Kirundo Province today.

Curfew Violated in Bujumbura

EA2301101095 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in French 0430 GMT 23 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The curfew in force in Bujumbura which brought about a de facto cease-fire was violated last night. Residents of Mutanga, Nyakabiga, and Jabe Districts were unable to shut their eyes due to gunfire from simple or automatic weapons. Children traumatized by the infernal noise of firearms were in a state of shock as they could not understand anything. Deafening shooting broke the freshness of the night from midnight to 0200.

According to the same source, the group of criminals split into two. One half headed toward Mutanga Sud District where they damaged 19 saloon cars and shot at housing blocks four, five, and six. At about 0430, two grenades exploded at Kamenge Technical School. Paradoxically, the wrongdoers were not apprehended and they disappeared into thin air. The curfew, beneficial as it is, has been dealt an unfortunate blow.

Reports on Embargo, Military Intervention Denied

EA2201171595 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in French 0430 GMT 22 Jan 95

[Communique issued by the Office of the Prime Minister; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Some foreign radios have relayed news of certain decisions made by foreign partners concerning threats of a military embargo against Burundi. These statements follow a smear campaign orchestrated by extremist circles known for their hostility to the government convention [power-sharing agreement between the ruling Front for the Democracy in Burundi Party and the opposition].

On behalf of the Government of Burundi, the director in the office of the prime minister strongly denounces the maneuvers aimed at undermining work toward national reconciliation, and states that the government has never requested any international embargo or military intervention against Burundi. The office urges our foreign partners not to be fooled by such people, who are motivated by destructive factors, and instead to consult the Burundi authorities responsible for giving the government's position on such crucial issues, issues on which the government convention provides guidelines.

The public should know that the international community will come to the rescue of Burundi only at the government's request.

4 Killed, 3 Injured in Northeast Attacks

EA2201184595 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in French 0430 GMT 22 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Four people were killed and three slightly wounded in the Province of Muyinga on the night of 20 to 21 January. Here is a report by Jean Claude Nzigamye:

[Begin Nzigamye recording] According to police sources, four people were murdered on the night over the weekend in the Swahili District of Muyinga and three others were wounded. The criminals attacked the residence of the provincial inspector [not further identified] killed his wife with a grenade, then stabbed the inspector and dragged him into a coffee plantation, the same sources add.

At the same time, a different group attacked another family: A Rwandan woman and her child were stabbed, while three other children were slightly wounded, the police add. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Rwanda

Returning Exiles Told To Denounce Genocide

LD2001154995 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 20 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Kigali Government hopes to inspire confidence and thus to hasten the return of exiles, but this is not unconditional, as [Prime Minister] Faustin Twagiramungu pointed out:

[Begin Twagiramungu recording] This dialogue has been under way for some time, since we have asked Rwandans to come and join in the reconstruction of our country. Some of them consistently refused our appeal, and today we are simply renewing it. As we have always pointed out, this dialogue is not open to anyone and everyone. It is open to those who make a declaration denouncing the genocide and the massacre, carried out by the planners [of this genocide] who were the leaders of the MRND [National Revolutionary Movement for Development], the former party of President Habyarimana, and the CDR [Coalition for Defense of the Republic]. If they denounce what was carried out as a crime, they can always come and work with us. They can always come and enter into dialogue with us. It must be added that this dialogue will not take place outside [Rwanda]. Whoever wants to engage in a dialogue with us simply has to re-enter the country. [end recording]

Twagiramungu on Reconstruction, Elections

BR2001135095 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 20 Jan 95 p 6

[Interview with Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu by Ana Fernandez in Geneva; date not given: "There are no Tribes in Rwanda"—introductory paragraph omitted]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Geneva—[passage omitted] [Fernandez] What is your government's main concern?

[Twagiramungu] To reestablish order in our country and draw up an emergency plan enabling us to reactivate our economy. All this requires well thought-out and detailed

plans, and we would like their implementation to be backed by financial assistance from the international community.

[Fernandez] Up until now the international community has limited itself to providing humanitarian aid. Why do you think it has not shown sufficient trust in the new government?

[Twagiramungu] I believe we must make the international community more aware, and this is the duty of the Rwandan Government. No assessment of the situation was made after the war, and therefore we did not know what our real needs were. This task has now been carried out by the Rwandan Government with the help of the UNPD [UN Program for Development]. I can imagine many countries wanted to help us, but they did not know where to start. Germany and Canada helped us to restore telephone communications and electrical power, for example.

[Fernandez] Is the amount you are requesting enough to reconstruct a completely devastated country?

[Twagiramungu] This money is only for this year's reconstruction program, and it is nowhere close to the amount we really need. But the other nations are saying that we lack the capacity to absorb more funds.

[Fernandez] Might the Hutus and the Tutsis become reconciled some day?

[Twagiramungu] I would like to say that there is often talk of tribal strife, but in fact there are no tribes. There are two ethnic groups that have been vying for power since the 1950's, but they are united by the same culture and the same language. We are not divided by such a wide gap as people may think. However, they must simply listen to us with regard to the best way to reconcile the two sides and how the country must be governed, basing our hopes on democratic principles. The conflict is only a political one.

[Fernandez] When are you planning to hold elections?

[Twagiramungu] The Arusha agreement (August 1993) provides for elections to be held two years from the signing of the agreement itself, but given everything that has happened I do not think this will be possible. We must first reconstruct the country and enable people to recover their trust in the possibility of living together, before we can think of elections.

[Fernandez] The new government and its army have been accused of committing crimes closely resembling a settling of scores. Does Rwanda today offer the necessary safety conditions for the return of the two million refugees that are still in the neighboring countries?

[Twagiramungu] We have never denied that certain excesses have been committed, but unlike the former government, we did not plan them. We are making every effort to reestablish and guarantee security within Rwanda's borders. In any case, if the old leaders stop

terrorizing and hijacking the refugees, and if the latter express their wish to return to Rwanda, then they will return.

[Fernandez] When you seized power last summer, you promised justice, and that you would bring to trial those guilty of massacres. What is the current situation?

[Twagiramungu] The international Court, which I believe will be condemning the criminals who are outside the country, has been recognized by us. We will shortly be sending a list of war criminals to our neighboring countries in order to request their extradition. Inside the country, justice will be entrusted to the national courts, if possible with assistance from abroad to provide the resources required for effective justice. However, at present we neither have the necessary judges nor the courtrooms, nor have communications been reestablished.

[Fernandez] It will therefore take a long time...

[Twagiramungu] This is true. But what can we do about it? We cannot give up, because we cannot allow impunity any longer, but at the same time we cannot condemn people without judging them first.

18 Killed in Attacks in Lake Kivu Region

*AB2001165195 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 20 Jan 95*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has been another attack in the Lake Kivu region of western Rwanda, bordering on Zaire. Ten days or so ago, armed gunmen attacked a fishing village on the shores of the lake, clashing with the Rwandan Patriotic Army in a two-hour battle. It was believed that the attackers were Hutu militias exiled in Zaire. The latest incident was a raid on an island in the lake. A number of people were killed. It apparently occurred last weekend. Details are only just emerging and are sketchy. On the line to Kigali, Barnaby Philips asked UN military spokesman Captain Stephane Grenier if it was known how many people had died.

[Begin recording] [Grenier] Yes, from the details we have at this moment, 18 people would have been killed in the incident, and it is unclear right now how many people were attacking etc., and we are investigating.

[Philips] Now, previous trouble in this area has been caused by militiamen or soldiers of the outgoing regime. It would be a logical assumption, would it not, that this trouble... [pauses] these latest 18 deaths were also caused by those people.

[Grenier] It could very well be, but as I stated during the last interview, I believe, it is always unsure... [pauses] and we are always unsure of these results of investigations because people tell you what they want to tell you. Now, we have reason to believe that these attacks are sometimes launched by troops or people, bandits, still loyal to the former Rwandan Government, but we can never for sure, 100 percent, confirm that. Now, as you said, it would be logical to reach that conclusion but at this time, it is too early to speculate.

[Philips] Do you know who these 18 people were who were killed? What kind of people they might have been?

[Grenier] Well, no, and we really do not look for that. You know, as far as we are concerned Rwandans are Rwandans. We do not make any differences between ethnicity or whatnot, but as I said when the report comes in, we will know more.

[Philips] But given that there was this trouble in this area last week, as you say, and then something on a bigger scale seems to have happened again, why have you not put more people into this area to prevent this from happening?

[Grenier] Well, in fact, if we could look at a map right now, we would soon realize that almost more than the two-thirds of our force is deployed in that sector, so putting more troops would be to the detriment of other sectors in the country, which also require UN presence so at this moment, we are quite satisfied with the deployment. [end recording]

Somalia

Ali Mahdi Warns of Renewed Civil War

EA2001203495 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 20 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the president of the Somali Republic and the chairman of the Somali Salvation Alliance [SSA], on behalf of the Somali Republic, people, and himself today sent congratulations to the staff of the Ministry of Information and Culture on the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the Somali Information Day which will be marked tomorrow, 21 January 1995. [passage omitted]

The president appealed to Somali journalists to stand for the interests of Somalia and its people and support their ministry in creating a unity of purpose. The president said the Somali people were today thirsty for peace, unity, reconciliation, and rehabilitation of the national institutions. To implement this, he said, it was necessary to find extra ability [as heard] and discipline, and respect for the country's laws and rules.

On the other hand, the president said it was possible for the situation to worsen in the country as the scheduled UN troop withdrawal drew nearer. The president said we were faced with the danger of a renewed civil war as a sign of the failure of the Somali national reconciliation conference. In order to avert the prospects of renewed civil war, the president appealed to the international community not to leave Somalia while the problems they came to resolve in the first place remain unresolved, but rather to maintain their assistance until there was a government and a general cease-fire in the country.

The president for the first time appealed to both the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and SSA to agree to the holding of a broad-based national conference before 31 March 1995 so as to save the dignity and honor of the country's nationhood. The president said the people should decide on when, where and how the conference

would be held. He said the two alliances should ask the press to support the formation of a single broad-based government, and that the SSA and SNA should urge editors of private newspapers in the country to stop fanning local hostilities, to resolve their differences and publish articles which strive for unity among the Somali newspapers. [passage omitted]

SNA Reportedly Helped Free French Hostage

EA2201124595 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1100 GMT 22 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Professor Isa Mohamed Siad, the United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance [USC-SNA] secretary for foreign affairs, disclosed today that Mr. Rudy Marq, who was working with the International Action Against Famine agency and was kidnapped by Somali gunmen on 17 December, has been released unconditionally. The secretary, briefing journalists, added that the white hostage was released last night, at 2200, safe and sound.

The professor said this was the result of efforts by the SNA, intellectuals, and well-informed Somali individuals. Prof. Isa Mohamed Siad noted that Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the SNA chairman, has congratulated all those who contributed to the release of Mr. Rudy Marq, and he issued a general warning that acts such as hostage taking should be avoided.

Released Hostage Flies to Kenya

LD2201092395 Paris Radio France International in French 0600 GMT 22 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Somalia the French hostage has definitely been released. Rudy Marq, who worked for a French aid agency, was kidnapped in Mogadishu on 17 December. His release had earlier been announced and later denied. He was freed yesterday and has flown back to Kenya. We have just learned this from our correspondent in Nairobi, (Jean Helene).

De Klerk Discusses Indemnities, NP Congress

MB2301063895 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television
Network in English 1730 GMT 22 Jan 95

[Interview with National Party leader and Deputy President F.W. de Klerk by announcer Leslie Mashokwe on the "Newsline" Program; place not given—live]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Mashokwe] Good evening to you, Mr. De Klerk, and welcome.

[De Klerk] Good evening.

[Mashokwe] Could we say that the storm is over...[break in transmission] amnesty now?

[De Klerk] Yes, we have restored the working relationship, and we have had a fundamental discussion. The air has been cleared, and the government of national unity, in my opinion, can now resume to do the good work it has been doing.

[Mashokwe] But you didn't get the apology that you demanded.

[De Klerk] I never demanded an apology, and I made it clear at the press conference, as well. In my speech, I didn't demand an apology, because I wasn't acting out of personal pique. It didn't go about my personal feelings at all. It is about a fundamental relationship of accepting each other's integrity. If you don't have that, you can't really cooperate. Then you start fighting like cats and dogs. I wanted the record to be put straight with regard to our integrity and our good faith. I wanted a statement that that is accepted, and that statement I wanted to be unqualified—and that was contained in the joint statement which the president and I issued on Friday afternoon.

[Mashokwe] What would have been the worst had you not been appeased?

[De Klerk] The worst would have been withdrawal of the National Party from the government of national unity.

[Mashokwe] What would that mean for the country, for investors?

[De Klerk] Yes, yes, that is why, right from the beginning, even at the moment of...[pauses] When the crisis occurred, right from that moment, from my side, I tried to manage this on the basis that we must find a way of keeping the government of national unity together. I managed it in a constructive manner. It is not true, what some newspapers write, that I said I am going to walk and I had to be convinced. I immediately called the National Party ministers and said to them there are a few options. The one option is that we leave. The one option is that the matter is rectified and that, in order to rectify it, we need the ANC leadership to do something substantial. And then there were other options in between—for instance, just for me to resign, but for the party to remain in the government of national unity, so that I could then

without being [word indistinct] of being deputy president, being part of the cabinet, could lead my party in a very much more aggressive stance.

[Mashokwe] From the discussions that you have had, is the role of the National Party more defiant now than ever before, within the government of national unity?

[De Klerk] We couldn't in one-hour, one-and-a-half hour's discussion, settle detail about that, but there is agreement that the cabinet will continue a discussion, with which it is busy in any event, focusing exactly on that. What are the rights and duties of all the parties participating, focusing on conventions, conventions being customs that have already started to develop? But we need to broaden them so that there is a good understanding. You actually need a basic understanding between parties cooperating in this way. When does a minister bring something to cabinet? In a government of national unity, I believe there is a greater duty on all ministers to bring matters to cabinet, so that the whole cabinet is informed as they would be in a cabinet with only one party in it. So we need to develop it, and we have agreed on a procedure that we will specifically focus on it, without any delay and without loss of time.

[Mashokwe] Let's focus on the issue at hand here, the issue of indemnity. Information at our disposal is that you did not know that there was this sort of indemnity, not even that two of your cabinet ministers applied for indemnity. Is this real? Is it possible?

[De Klerk] No, I haven't said that I didn't know of any application whatsoever. I have said publicly that Minister Vlok consulted me about the fact whether he should apply and that in private I advised him, I said I shouldn't...[pauses] I didn't think he should do so, but I wasn't informed about the totality of this. I didn't know about the thousands of applications. It wasn't driven by the government. It wasn't organized by the government or by the National Party. This was done in the height...[pauses] in the last hype, the last weeks of the election campaign, but also the procedure which applied to these specific applications was that it wasn't addressed at me. It went to the Department of Justice, as thousands of applications of ANC people also went under this category to the Department of Justice, and it was dealt with administratively. It didn't require my signature. Nobody had to tell me about it. Nobody had to submit anything to me. That is why I wasn't informed and I didn't know.

[Mashokwe] But in the national police, two cabinet ministers applied for indemnity. Was it not your right at least to know about these things? You said nothing about Minister Magnus Malan.

[De Klerk] I think I had an idea, but I can't remember a specific discussion between us. It might have taken place. Ministers, obviously, yes, but the police don't have to ask me whether they must apply. They don't have to tell me. It is their right—as it was every South African's right in terms of the legislation on indemnity—

to apply, to fill in a form, to give it to the Department of Justice, and it is now a question of law.

What is the implication of this specific group of applications? It is not a political decision that was required. We need clarity. Did they, by the working of the law, get indemnity or not? I see today in the SUNDAY TIMES that Professor Dugard, who has been a vociferous, strong critic of the National Party throughout his life, in the SUNDAY TIMES said this is what should have been done. We should leave it to the courts, really, to decide, because the applications have been launched. It didn't require anybody to say yes or no. It is a...[break in transmission] whether those applications complied with the indemnity act or not. If they didn't, and if a court would find that, then they will have to apply again or then some other procedure will have to be followed.

But in any event, President Mandela and I have agreed that, whether we differ about this issue or not, what is necessary.... We owe it also to members of the police force to have certainty about their positions and that we must get certainty for them as soon as possible. And my viewpoint—and if I read what minister Omar has said recently too, he now agrees with that—is that there should never be one law for one set of South Africans and another law for another set of South Africans, and that therefore the very same rules should apply for the police which were applied in the case of the ANC.

[Mashokwe] If I were a member of the security forces, one of the 3,500, and you had said sometime during the week that they were going to get automatic amnesty, indemnification. What would you say to me today?

[De Klerk] I would say that we must now, without any loss of time, in the government of national unity, address ourselves to what options there are to settle this matter as soon as possible. That is what President Mandela and I have agreed. I haven't said that any specific option is the best one. I think there are a number of options. What we did agree is we mustn't waste time, we must bring certainty as soon as possible, and therefore I would be critical of options which will continue to stretch out this uncertainty for another three months or four months or five months or six months, and I would like to see an option adopted to settle their position within weeks, if possible.

[Mashokwe] What are you saying to me if I'm a member of the 3,500 people? Hang in there?

[De Klerk] Oh, yes, definitely, hang in there. The government owes the total police force to deal with them fairly and not to deal with them in any different way than others have been dealt with. If that is done, then none of these policemen, about these specific issues which are involved, need really to be concerned. The statement of intent has now been made also by President Mandela, that they will be looked after.

[Mashokwe] Are you now removing yourself from the position that you took earlier, that these were going to be automatic?

[De Klerk] No, I've taken the position that what has happened has happened, and in law, it is now a question: Do they have indemnity already or not? I still hold that position, and we made it clear in our statement. But if, rather than having long arguments about who is right and who is wrong about the legal effect of what has taken place in the past, if we can make doubly sure by now doing something about it and doing it soon, then I will work with him, because I also want them to have certainty.

[Mashokwe] There was a bit of doubt within the National Party itself. At times, Pik Botha and yourself differed. Have you now converged on...are you not....

[De Klerk, interrupting] We didn't really differ. What Pik said is, he believes his interpretation of the law is that they didn't give enough particulars and therefore what has happened did not give them indemnity and....

[Mashokwe, interrupting] Is that a fact?

[De Klerk] No, it's not a fact. That is where I and the ANC differs. But it is a strong possibility, because they didn't give full details, and a court might find, and I think the odds are that the court will find that their applications were too vague. But if that is so, then a court will find also that the applications of thousands of ANC people were also too vague, because they also got indemnity for all acts promoting the policies and goals of the ANC, without specifying that. So there's a category amongst the ANCs in exactly the same position as these 3,500 police are.

[Mashokwe] What would ministers in your government be asking indemnity for? What was your understanding when you had these talks with them?

[De Klerk] The two who applied did not admit to any offenses.

[Mashokwe] Now why did they apply?

[De Klerk] The wording of their application was, if anything which they did in implementing the policy of the old government were to be found to be an offense, then they applied to be...[pauses] to get indemnity....

[Mashokwe, interrupting] So you knew about their application?

[De Klerk] I knew...[pauses] I knew what the form says. I didn't know about the lot of police applications. I was consulted, which I can remember, by Minister Vlok. I advised him not to do so, and yes, surely, I think he told me later on that he did lodge an application, but it never came to me. I never had to deal with it.

Can I say on something, something in this regard? We are accused of having kept things quiet, but this information was available from the very first day in the Department of Justice that Minister Omar walked in there, and Minister Coetsee tells me....

[Mashokwe, interrupting] It was kept away from him, Mr. De Klerk.

[De Klerk] No, it wasn't kept away from him. Minister Coetsee tells me that when he sort of handed over, he had a discussion with Minister Omar, and he said: I advise you, Minister, now that you are Minister of Justice, to get all your facts about where do we stand with indemnity and with amnesty, and you should go and talk to Mr. Kleynhans, and you should go and talk to Mr. so and so. Nothing was kept secret. The information was available there all the time. The National Party was not guilty of hiding anything.

[Mashokwe] Mr. De Klerk, your party's congress, where to from here?

[De Klerk] Our party is the second biggest party in South Africa, and our goal is to once again become the biggest party, so we will take our policy, market our policy, establish branches in places where we don't have branches, write in members. We are going to work very hard. We are going to upgrade our whole community effort in order to establish a good communication effort, in order to establish good communication with as many South Africans as possible. We want to become once again the biggest party in South Africa. We have good policies.

We devoted our congress to also consult, because we have there people from every corner of South Africa. They were sent by the branches from throughout our country, so we had grassroot representation. We presented them with draft policy documents on a number of important subjects and said this is a draft, and the whole of Friday was spent by the congress being divided into five groups and everybody had a free choice where to go. They looked at this, and they then reported back to congress what changes they want to bring about in these policies. We will now look at all their advice in more detail and bring out final policy documents on these important issues, the economy, education, security, and of human rights. There was another one....

[Mashokwe, interrupting] Constitutional....

[De Klerk, continuing] Constitutional and provincial affairs. And then they will be published as the formal new action plans of the government which we put on the table, so that the people can clearly see where we want to go to, why they should vote for us.

[Mashokwe] Let me take this opportunity to ask for apology. We seem to be experiencing technical difficulties due to bad weather, but let's continue with our discussion. Mr. De Klerk, on the issue of education, we seem to be focused on own affairs—you could say, a leopard does not change its spots. Does it?

[De Klerk] No, it's not true. The Constitution, our new Constitution, our Bill of Rights, says two main things about education. It says that there may not be any form of racial discrimination. We fully support that, fully. But

then the Constitution says that any group of South Africans or any community would like to see on the basis of language, on the basis of religion, on the basis of culture, their school being based on that language, that culture, that religion. They are entitled to do so, if it is practical, and we say that is as important a right which is afforded by the Constitution to all South Africans as the very important right, which may never be undermined, is that there must not be racial discrimination. And therefore, I'm in favor of schools opening their doors. They are doing it with our support, they are doing it....[pauses] My advice, when they ask my advice....

[Mashokwe, interrupting] But Mr. De Klerk, you have a political situation here where you have rather Afrikaans schools which have fewer numbers of students, pupils, and are forced to open because of (?reality) dictated so to them, yet your party still seems to cling on to the concept of own affairs, own education based on language, culture....

[De Klerk, interrupting] Yes, we believe...[pauses] we believe that people who want that, and where it is practicable, in other words, if there is sufficient demand for an Afrikaans school in a particular town or city, and if they fill up that school building, then they are entitled to it. It's not just because we say they are entitled to it. Our Bill of Rights say they are entitled to it. I'm not advocating something which must still come. It is already the inherent right, and if people want it in Venda, they can have it in Venda, and if the Muslim community would like to say we want this school to have a Muslim ethos and there will be certain things in this school which will really be only acceptable to Muslims, they are entitled to it. That is what the Constitution means.

[Mashokwe] Let me move now to the subject of affirmative action. Your party seems to be very dubious on how affirmative action should be carried out—regstellende maatreels [affirmative measures]. In the past your party favored whites, Afrikaners particularly. Should we not go a step further and advocate for a policy that corrects that wrong, in other words, and also some form of discrimination which would make a lot of black people better who you want to vote for you?

[De Klerk] I'm very glad you asked that question, because the rumor is going around, as you have worded it now, that we are unsure and uncertain about it. Not true. We are absolutely in favor of affirmative action. We have started long before the past general election with affirmative action. Maybe not in a form or in a way which was supported, because we were still an all-white government, but upward mobility in the civil service has been applied since I became president in 1989 and even from before that, but specifically since then.

[Mashokwe] And you still end up with all the director generals being white and Afrikaner, in the main?

[De Klerk] Well, that is because you don't become a director general overnight. You can go and check those

director generals. Most of them have spent 30 years—they have 30 years of experience. They work them up through the ranks, but I'm all in favor of also empowerment, empowerment through training, through identifying managerial skills from people who were excluded maybe previously from specifically certain departments, bringing them in.

I'm all in favor, enthusiastic about upgrading the whole training to make people competitive—to help people to develop their talent to the full so that they can move forward, so that through experience and better training, they can achieve the highest possible rank which they can. And we will have black director generals by the dozens, and we will have them throughout all the top management positions. But what we do say, and that is where we differ, is once again that form of special action we support wholeheartedly. But that should not result in a reversed form of new apartheid, new racial discrimination, where, because you are an Indian or because you are a colored or because you are a white, it is held against you. If a white, an Indian, and black father and mother have children who now leave school who applied to become civil servants or to become policemen or women, I say they must all be given a chance. You must not turn that youngster, that white youngster away and say, because you are white, you are not welcome to enter the civil service. That would be racial discrimination. Through an organized process, we must ensure that also the management, the top echelons of the civil service look like the nation.

[Mashokwe] Thank you, Mr. De Klerk. We have run out of time. That was your Newsline this evening, and from all of us here, good evening.

NP Calls For Smaller National Assembly

MB1901205295 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2007 GMT 19 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Jan 19 SAPA—The National Party [NP] wants a smaller National Assembly elected on a basis of proportional and constituency representation, according to an NP discussion document to be debated at the party's federal congress on Friday [20 January].

The paper argues the assembly should directly represent voters and act independently of the executive authority. The paper will contribute to the NP's approach towards constitution-making in the Constitutional Assembly.

It argues that the role of opposition parties be "clearly defined in order to achieve democratic representation and meaningful consultation for the opposition in all structures and their participation in decision-making".

The document says "abuse of power by the executive authority must be prevented".

"Different executive authority systems should thus be considered so that the method of appointment and the

functions of the head of state, the head of government and the cabinet best serve the nations' interests.

"The executive authority must remain completely responsible to the national assembly, but provision must be made for cabinet members also to be appointed from outside the ranks of parliament on grounds of expertise."

Ways had to be evolved to ensure the independence of the judiciary and ensure the appointment of judges was "credible, legitimate and apolitical".

"The constitution must prevent the executive authority from in any way manipulating or influencing the administration of justice."

The document says the NP wants a distribution of power between national, provincial and local government.

"The NP will submit specific proposals to the constitutional process regarding methods and systems whereby the rights of self-determination may be practised on a non-discriminatory basis."

Backs Market Economy, Death Penalty

MB2001200395 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 20 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Party's [NP] federal congress was today overshadowed by the summit in Pretoria between President Nelson Mandela and Deputy President F. W. de Klerk. Estelle Pienaar reports that throughout the day there was a general air of expectation over the outcome of the talks and the feedback that the party leader would give the congress.

[Pienaar] A fresh breeze characterized deliberations at the congress today. Where in the past delegates sat together in a large hall and listened to speakers, it was the delegates themselves who did the talking today. They divided into working groups to debate key agenda issues.

The congress expressed support for a market-driven economy, with an emphasis on free enterprise. On the subject of education, the NP committed itself to relevant, affordable, nondiscriminatory, quality education for all. During its discussion on basic human rights, the party voiced its support for the retention of the existing legislation on abortion.

On language rights, the general feeling was that these should be expanded rather than curtailed. The congress expressed its concern over the high crime figures and agreed that free political expression and participation should be given stronger protection in the Constitution. The death penalty should, according to the congress, be retained, and the moratorium on the death penalty removed.

De Klerk Wins Vote of Confidence

MB2101142795 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0651 GMT 21 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Jan 21 SAPA—The National Party's [NP] federal congress on Saturday

passed a motion of confidence in party leader and Deputy President F W de Klerk.

Mr de Klerk, who on Friday agreed with President Nelson Mandela to a "fresh start" for the government of national unity [GNU] following an unresolved dispute over indemnities granted by the previous government to two former NP cabinet ministers and 3,500 policemen, then called on the NP to also make a "fresh start". Speaking on the third day of the congress at the World Trade Centre at Kempton Park, Mr de Klerk told the 900 delegates that the NP would not allow itself to be "pushed around".

He said he was "satisfied" that his meeting with Mr Mandela had met the "minimum conditions" set by the NP leadership as a precondition for the NP's continued participation in the GNU. "The ground has been laid for a new beginning," he said, urging NP members to return to their branches to spread the message that the NP would "continue its good work in the GNU."

"We will fearlessly but always responsibly continue to put the case, cause and principles of the NP and constantly negotiate within the forum of the GNU to ensure through compromise and consensus that wise decisions are taken.

"Let's make a new beginning for our party," he urged.

The congress also passed a motion of confidence in NP Women's Action leader Marike de Klerk.

The congress is scheduled to end on Saturday afternoon.

Congress Summarized

MB2201132695 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1048
GMT 22 Jan 95

[Report by Patrick Bulger]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg January 22 SAPA—The crisis in the government of national unity [GNU] dominated the National Party's [NP] federal congress which ended at the World Trade Centre at the weekend.

The on-off marriage between the African National Congress and the NP provided a strong echo of the love-hate relationship between these two parties since February 1990 when Deputy President F W de Klerk freed Nelson Mandela and allowed the ANC to enter normal politics. Indeed the venue, many of the players and the NP policy positions aimed at securing for itself a prominent role in government as the country's largest minority party, provided a strong sense of *deja vu*.

There was Eastern Cape leader Tertius Delpont arguing, as he did in May 1992 at the Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] talks, for a federal system of government and the entrenchment of minority rights through the mechanism of "corporate autonomy". There was Mr de Klerk arguing that only "power-sharing"

could provide the stability that would attract foreign investment. And finally, there was the rank and file pushing the leadership to break up the GNU and to assume an opposition role in government (that is, actually believing the NP's trenchant opposition to the ANC).

Much of this, one had heard before. While the landmarks were familiar, however, the landscape is quite different with the ANC now in the driving seat in government, even if it does not occupy the same position of omnipotence that the NP did for so many decades and throughout the constitutional negotiations.

The congress opened on Thursday [19 January] night with Mr de Klerk laying down the law to the ANC after stock markets had already reacted negatively to the NP pulling out of the GNU. In his opening address, the bulk of which centered on his dispute with the ANC and the "vicious and personal attack" he had suffered at the hands of the "ANC leadership" (Mr Mandela, that is), Mr de Klerk demanded that his "good faith and integrity" be accepted. Mr de Klerk had apparently been on the point of packing his bags and leaving the Wednesday cabinet meeting but was restrained by fellow NP ministers in the GNU.

Many of the 1,000 delegates at the congress felt he should have done just [that], that he should "give up on the ANC" and "come home" to his own people. But powerful voices were raised in opposition to a walkout. Western Cape Premier Hruska Kriel argued that the NP should stay in the GNU for another "10 or 15 years" (its mandate expires in 1999) and that the country needed the NP's "restraint and expertise". Of course, Mr Kriel has his own national unity government in the Western Cape and it is a fair bet that the ANC would have answered the NP walkout on a national level with a walkout at provincial level, leaving Mr Kriel and his NP colleagues high and dry.

Mr de Klerk spent much of Friday away from the congress, meeting Mr Mandela in Pretoria. By the time they had finished, they had reconciled and the NP was firmly back in the GNU. This meant the party was able to concentrate on putting its slogan into effect, namely "we made the change, now we're making the difference", a slogan that would be difficult to act upon if the NP were sitting in ineffectual opposition on the sidelines.

The party took decisions on major areas of public life, none of which were new and all of which reflected its conservative approach to issues but which nonetheless are the core of the NP's approach. Discussion groups tackled the economy (free market and support for the Reconstruction and Development Programme premised on sustained economic growth); security (support for the death penalty, harsher anti-crime measures and impartial policing); human rights (opposition to abortion on demand and support for sensible affirmative action policies); constitution-making (an ongoing debate on whether to try to negotiate a GNU beyond its five-year

mandate and devolution of power to the provinces and local governments) and education (support for non-discrimination but mechanisms to ensure mother-tongue schools controlled by local communities).

Armed with this conservative rostrum, the party leadership felt it was in an ideal position to capture the support of millions more "good South Africans", the NP catchword for its voters. Mr de Klerk said in closing the congress that not enough attention had been given to how the party would actually go about winning the support it feels it deserves. To remedy this, he suggested a grassroots approach to politics by communication on a one-to-one basis, regular meetings, the opening of yet more branches.

The congress was slick and modern, with light and sound effects that would be the envy of any rock star. People of all colours were there in abundance. Coming as it did just one month after the ANC's national conference in Bloemfontein, one could not help but draw parallels. At the ANC conference, the major gripe was of a party in power yet not able to exercise that power without overturning established conventions and institutions like the NP; in the case of the NP, the complaint was that of a party in partnership with the ANC yet ignored on major questions; of a party in opposition yet unable to wholeheartedly criticise the actions of its senior partner in government.

Buthelezi Affirms Commitment to Government

MB2001204195 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television Network in English 1900 GMT 20 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Home Affairs Minister and Inkatha Freedom Party leader Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi says he is still committed to the government of national unity, despite all the current problems.

Commenting on the issue of indemnities granted by 3,500 policemen and two cabinet ministers, Dr. Buthelezi said the people should not be treated differently as far as indemnity was concerned. He said it was clear that it was a matter of procedures which were not followed and that the indemnities were only technically invalid.

Mandela Discusses National Budget, Education

MB1901092395 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0840 GMT 19 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Jan 19 SAPA—The national budget for the coming financial year would not differ drastically from the "apartheid budget", President Nelson Mandela said on Thursday.

Addressing pupils and teachers at Soweto's Emdeni Primary School, he said dramatic departures from the present budget would result in "dislocations". Increasing the education allowance by cutting down on budgets of

other departments would have to be done carefully so as not to create pandemonium.

He told pupils each year a new grade (standard) would be free until schooling would eventually cost nothing. Mr Mandela promised teachers that the government was working to change their difficult situation by, for example, increasing pay and improving teachers' training.

"That is what this government is all about. We want every child to have the chance of going to school." He said teachers were entitled to strike, but not at the expense of children.

Turning to the pupils, Mr Mandela said their most important task was to get an education. He added they should not boycott schools in sympathy with teachers' strikes.

Mr Mandela, Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale and education MEC [member of the Executive Council] Mary Metcalfe are scheduled to visit three other schools in the province on Thursday.

Mandela's Visit to India Previewed

MB2301054195 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2145 GMT 22 Jan 95

[Report by Neil Lewis]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Jan 22 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela jets into India this week, resuming his role as an international statesman.

Days after a challenging political spat with Deputy President F W de Klerk over indemnities for two cabinet ministers and 3,500 policemen, Mr Mandela is instead expected to put that behind him and concentrate on boosting trade between India and South Africa.

A statement by his office at the weekend said he would spend four days in India from Tuesday, January 24.

Spokesman Parks Mankahlana said Mr Mandela had decided to stick to the original four-day schedule, cutting back on a planned further three days to deal with "ANC business".

The president will be the main guest in New Delhi on Thursday at celebrations to mark India's independence from Britain.

He will also hold talks with Indian Prime Minister P V Narashimha Rao and visit the memorial place of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhi cut his political teeth in South Africa earlier this century when he launched non-violent campaigns against racial discrimination.

He also established a communal site (ashram) for prayer and meditation at Inanda outside Durban during his political campaigns in South Africa.

Mr Mankahlana confirmed at the weekend that Mr Mandela's delegation includes Ms Ella Gandhi, the late mahatma's granddaughter and now a member of parliament for the ANC.

Prominent South African Indian businessmen and government officials are also travelling with Mr Mandela.

India's anti-apartheid campaign has been well-documented—it became the first country to impose sanctions on South Africa in 1948, expressing disgust for the then National Party government's social engineering based on racial criteria.

Trade between the two countries has been minimal since India withdrew its representative from South Africa in 1954.

Contact between the two countries has focused mainly on cultural links between the one million South Africans of Indian descent and New Delhi.

A trade has slowly developed since the unbanning of political organisations and the release of Mr Mandela in 1990. Last year, India's trade with South Africa rose to about R350 million [rand].

This is the first state visit to India by Mr Mandela since his inauguration in May last year. In October 1990 he visited New Delhi as ANC president, receiving India's highest award "the Jewel of India".

The political overtones are vast. In 1993 Mr Mandela became a joint recipient with Mr De Klerk of the Nobel Peace Prize. Mahatma Gandhi's peaceful quest for democracy also earned him the Nobel Peace Prize.

South African Press Review for 20 Jan

MB2001131295

[FBIS Editorial Report]

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

De Klerk's 'Major Flaw'—A page 26 editorial in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 20-26 January notes that Deputy President F.W. de Klerk's first instinct, when confronted with information that 3,500 security force members and two cabinet ministers had secretly applied for indemnity, was to "defend his men." However, he "later changed his tune, going along, it seems, with a cabinet decision not to recognise the validity of these indemnities." The "major flaw" in his political character has always been "his inability to deal firmly and decisively with the security forces when the situation has demanded it." This presents De Klerk and his party with a decision at their federal congress whether De Klerk "wants to spend the rest of his political career being the spokesman for and defender of the criminals and apartheidists of apartheid." The National Party, NP, now faces the crucial test of whether it can "project a vision of itself that overcomes the impression given by the indemnities debacle—that it

is a party that still can't be trusted to put the crimes of the past behind it and behave differently and honestly." Furthermore, if De Klerk treats the truth commission "as deviously as he has until now, then it will only reinforce the lasting impression that he himself has too much still to hide."

No Transparency on National Health Plan Decisions—A second editorial on the same page asks why Health Minister Zuma is "so eager" to adopt the "Decble" option for a national health insurance police? "While her single-minded determination is to be admired, there is a real danger that she is opting for the short-term political kudos to be won from a quick implementation of a new plan, rather than a full, lengthy debate to ensure that a considered, informed and correct decision is made." The process the Health Ministry has followed so far "has ignored the ANC's promise of transparency and accountability." The ministry has also "gagged its staff from speaking to the media about these issues, creating a climate of caution and silence."

CAPE TIMES

Secret Indemnities Not Cause for 'Witchhunt'—Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 16 January in a page 8 editorial says the disclosures that ex-ministers Magnus Malan and Adriaan Vlok, and 3,500 policemen were "secretly indemnified" by the De Klerk government for unspecified illegal activities "are shocking—but should not be a signal for a witchhunt." The paper believes the right course now is for the Truth Commission "to establish the facts and place them on record, while upholding and ratifying all indemnities already granted, as long as those concerned are prepared to disclose the offences for which they sought amnesty."

THE STAR

Truth Commission Parameters—"The controversy over police indemnities suggests that the truth commission's brief needs to be tightly defined and clearly limited," declares a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 20 January. If the truth commission is to deal with a case per day of the 3,500 applications for indemnity on behalf of policemen, "that would see us into 2005, 10 years hence." Therefore, if the truth commission is "not to become so totally unwieldy as to be in danger of collapsing under its own weight," it "must set its own strict parameters now, and stick to them." THE STAR believes the "indemnity fiasco" will have served a purpose if it "concentrates South African minds on these sorts of problems before we run into them."

NEW NATION

Call for Probes Into Indemnities, Ex-Government Departments—The government's revoking of the indemnities of two former ministers and 3,500 policemen demonstrates that the government "has the capacity to act incisively and clinically against any

attempt to undermine its sovereignty." NEW NATION finds it "inexplicable and simply criminal" that the indemnity list had been kept from the new government by some of its own ministers. NEW NATION emphasizes the need for "a full investigation" into the activities of ex-Minister Adriaan Vlok and ex-Minister Magnus Malan and their charges. Investigations "must be conducted into the affairs of every department in government previously administered by NP ministers. And if any underhand activities are uncovered, nothing short of decisive action will be expected from the incumbent ministers."

SOWETAN

De Klerk Gets Indemnities 'Slap in the Face'—"The contretemps over the indemnity for a large number of policemen and senior officers reached a climax yesterday when a Cabinet decision said they had no such pardon," notes Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 20 January in a page 10 editorial. "It is with this kind of slap in the face that Mr F W de Klerk has to face party members at the National Party Congress. There were rumours yesterday that De Klerk would be asked to resign, which would have caused considerable trouble for the Government of National Unity. The tremors, however, remain. It will require great statesmanship from leaders like De

Klerk and Mr Mandela to keep the Government together and the process moving. From their past experiences and the fact that things are no longer done with the "kragdadigheid" [show of strength] and secrecy of the past, democracy will triumph."

BUSINESS DAY

'No Moral Right' for Police Indemnities—What occurred between the NP government during its final days, two cabinet ministers, and a few thousand policemen seeking indemnities is still concealed by "a murky haze" according to Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 20 January in a page 6 editorial. Although Deputy President De Klerk has deputized his colleague Pik Botha to handle the indemnities issue, "he cannot avoid dirt rubbing off on him." BUSINESS DAY points out that at no stage prior to the April 1994 election did the NP government acknowledge explicitly that any of its leaders or "servants" might require indemnity, and therefore "had no moral right to grant indemnity to itself or its servants. This is not to say that government leaders, policemen and others who committed crimes in defence of apartheid should not be indemnified from prosecution." But "the way they are granted is also important and the proposed Truth and Reconciliation Commission is the obvious vehicle."

Ghana

Liberian Faction Leaders Arrive in Accra

AB2201185595 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 22 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Leaders of most of the Liberian factions arrived in Accra today to continue efforts aimed at selecting the fifth member of the Council of State. They are in the country at the invitation of the chairman of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], President Jerry John Rawlings.

About two weeks ago, the faction leaders were asked to go home to resolve their differences over the composition of the Council of State after an extensive deliberation in Accra had failed. They are General Roosevelt Johnson of Ulimo [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia]-J; Gen. Hezekiah Bowen of the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia], who is accompanied for the first time by his deputy chief of staff, Gen. Phillip Kamah; and Alhaji Koromah of Ulimo-K. Others are the leader of the Lofa Defense Force, Mr. Francois Massaquoi; the leader of CRC [Central Revolutionary Council]; and Dr. Boley of the Liberian Peace Council. The leader of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and Mr. Oscar Quiah, civilian nominee to the Council of State, are expected to arrive later.

Gen. Roosevelt Johnson told newsmen on arrival that they nominated a candidate, but declined to give the name. The peace deal agreed by faction leaders in Accra on the 21st of last month includes a timetable for disarmament. A cease-fire took effect on 28th of last month, but the leaders missed the 11th of this month deadline for installation of the council.

Liberia

Ulimo's Johnson Withdraws From Peace Talks

AB2001183295 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 20 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Renewed efforts to get the Liberian peace process into gear have rapidly come to nothing. After the last round of talks in Accra which were deadlocked over the failure of the Armed Forces of Liberia [AFL] and the coalition to select a member of the ruling council, the warlords moved back to Monrovia. It was hoped the pressure from a local population, angry over the latest disappointment, and mediation by members the interim government might concentrate the minds of the quarreling warlords. But already, the negotiations have collapsed as Roosevelt Johnson, leader of one of the Ulimo [United Movement for Democracy in Liberia], has walked out. From Monrovia, Nyenati Allison telexed this report:

Roosevelt Johnson said today that he was withdrawing from the talks, because he said government mediators

were not impartial. In a statement, he said the government was not a neutral party to mediate the talks. Roosevelt Johnson called for fresh mediation efforts in Monrovia by traditional chiefs as well as Liberia's Interfaith Mediation Committee. The committee is made up of Christian and Muslim leaders. A member of the ruling State Council, Dexter Taylor, has also withdrawn from the mediation panel and has also questioned the government's neutrality. He said the council was unable to be impartial because of a long-standing problem with General Hezekiah Bowen over the AFL leadership. Meanwhile, the AFL leader, Gen. Bowen, said today that he would never compromise his presence on the proposed mediation council. Gen. Bowen called for Ghanaian facilitators to conduct elections in compliance with the guidelines agreed in Ghana.

Nigeria

Officials To Check 'Unpatriotic Activities'

AB2001213195 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 20 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Managers of government security establishments have been asked to evolve effective means of countering unpatriotic activities inimical to the corporate existence of the nation. The director, special services in the presidency, Mr. (Bukar Usman), made the call in Oka, Anambra State, while declaring open a meeting of security administrators from all the states and Abuja. Godwin Nme has the report.

[Begin Nme recording] Mr. (Usman) said that such measures will help to stop the damage done to the nation's economy last year by the strike embarked upon by the oil, financial, and transport workers. The director general noted that the action also caused emotional dislocation to the citizenry. He charged the delegates to review, as well as analyze the role of labor in the nation's policy. Mr. (Usman) explained that the government's intervention in trade union affairs was to [word indistinct] the union from undue foreign interference and manipulation.

The director general remarked that the strike caused the nation to lose 70 billion naira. He was, however, happy that despite these unpatriotic acts, the bulk of Nigerians still prefer to live together. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Ogoni Leader's Trial Adjourned Until Feb

AB1601142395 Paris AFP in English 1234 GMT 16 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Port Harcourt, Nigeria, Jan 16 (AFP)—The trial of Nigerian author Ken Saro-Wiwa, the 53-year-old leader of Nigeria's Ogoni people, was adjourned until the beginning of next month shortly after opening here Monday [16 January].

Saro-Wiwa is on trial for murder in a case brought by the government.

Fighting broke out around the courthouse, but several hundred armed policemen and soldiers quickly restored order.

Saro-Wiwa is president of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), an organisation set up to defend the rights of the 550,000-strong community in Nigeria's oil-rich southeastern Rivers State.

The Ogonis, one of the 250 ethnic groups making up Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, have fought hard since 1993 against the exploitation of the reserves by a number of international oil companies, notably Anglo-Dutch combine Shell.

The environment Greenpeace organisation Monday urged Shell International to use their influence on Nigeria's military regime to halt the murder trial.

Greenpeace was to hold a demonstration outside Shell's London headquarters Monday.

The military regime, which has jailed numerous opposition leaders, dissidents and trade unionists elsewhere in the country, appears determined to crush MOSOP which it accuses, despite MOSOP's protests to the contrary, of wanting to break with the Nigerian Federation.

Though MOSOP has always insisted it is a peaceful organisation, Saro-Wiwa, MOSOP vice-president Ludum Mitee and other members of the group have been charged with the killings of four leading Ogonis in the town of Gokana on May 21, 1994 during protests the group had organised.

Saro-Wiwa, who has a heart condition, was jailed along with other MOSOP leaders on May 22 of last year, the day after the protests. All the MOSOP leaders have insisted they are innocent.

The trial, which could result in a death penalty for the accused, is expected to be without appeal.

The revelation in the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN Saturday that a military leader in Rivers State had sent a secret memo dated May 12 last year ordering a crackdown on the opposition appeared to back Fawehinmi's claims of a pre-planned government crackdown on the Ogonis.

The memo identified plans to provoke unrest in order to justify a military crackdown allowing for the re-entry of the oil giants scared off by bad publicity following earlier Ogoni protests.

The oil companies, notably Shell, have denied all collusion with the military despite suggestions in the memo that the military asked for prompt payments in exchange for the suppression campaign.

Nigeria earns around 95 percent of its foreign earnings from oil sales and the military regime has been regularly accused of taking a huge cut on the sales.

In January 1993, after Ogonis launched a series of major protests, Shell withdrew most of its personnel from the region, but maintained some operations.

According to Amnesty International, at least 50 people were summarily executed in Ogoniland between just May and June last year and 600 arrested.

The writer Wole Soyinka, winner of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1986, who fled the country last November, accused the regime of carrying out "genocide" against the Ogoni and said videotapes of the killings had been smuggled out of the country and sent to the UN Minorities Commission.

Activists Ransome-Kuti, Falana Released

AB2001215695 Paris AFP in French 2034 GMT
20 Jan 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Lagos, 20 Jan [AFP]—Two human rights activists were freed today, after being held in custody for eight days, according to their close relatives. Beko Ransome-Kuti, chairman of the Campaign for Democracy [CD], an umbrella group bringing together about 40 human rights organizations, and Femi Falana, president of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers [NADL] were arrested on 12 January. No precise reason was given for their arrests.

The CD and the NADL had criticized the prolonged detention without trial of Ogoni leader Ken Saro-Wiwa. CD secretary general Sylvester Odion-Akhaine, who was arrested on 17 January, was also expected to be released today, according to the same source. Mr. Saro-Wiwa is the chairman of the Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People [MOSOP] which has been defending the rights of this community, whose territory is located in the oil-rich southern Rivers State.

The MOSOP is fighting against ecological havoc caused by international oil companies, including the Anglo-Dutch company Shell, without compensation for the inhabitants.

The trial of Ken Saro-Wiwa and some 30 Ogonis, who were imprisoned since 22 May on charges of assassinating four Ogoni leaders, was to begin in Port-Harcourt on 16 January, but has been postponed to the first week of February, since no member of the prosecution team was in court.

New Guidelines for Foreign Exchange Operators

AB1901225095 Lagos NTA Television Network in
English 2000 GMT 19 Jan 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bureau de change operators are now to participate in the Inter-Bank Foreign Exchange Market under the guidelines for the operations of the

foreign exchange market this year. Earners and users of foreign exchange may also participate through their authorized dealers, according to the guidelines released in Lagos today. Economic correspondent Kanayewo Buno has details:

[Begin Buno recording] Following the government's adoption of the policy of guided deregulation, the Central Bank of Nigeria has formally instituted the Inter-Bank Foreign Exchange Market, otherwise called IFEM. The Central Bank says the market will operate at rates that are mutually agreed between buyers and sellers of foreign currency.

The [word indistinct] bank will intervene from time to time in order to achieve the desired policy objectives including exchange rate stability through buying or selling foreign exchange to authorized dealers. The bank is also to prescribe the open position for individual banks for both prudential and operational reasons. It will also monitor compliance and impose sanctions for any violations of the limits.

On the operational guidelines, the CBN directed authorized dealers to close and display their buying and selling rates for the major currencies on a daily basis. The CBN says the delivery of foreign exchange shall be within three working days of sale or purchase for spot transaction and that failure to deliver within the specified period will attract appropriate sanctions.

While all documentation requirements prescribed for end users of foreign exchange shall continue to apply, all authorized dealers are to submit their weekly returns every Monday, showing their buying and selling rates and the amount at which business was transacted. Some of the sanctionable offenses under the guidelines are the non-disclosure or failure to keep proper records of transactions, diversion of foreign exchange to uses other than those for eligible or approved transactions and for misleading information or forged documents. The Central Bank says it will review the guidelines from time to time in the light of experience. [end recording]

Prospects for Solid Mineral Sector Examined

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] One of the highlights of this year's national budget is the creation of a Ministry of Solid Minerals Development. It is a measure which government hopes will diversify the nation's economic base and provide the much-needed revenue for the country. Correspondent Ernest Ananio, in this report, looks at the nation's potentials in solid minerals:

[Begin recording] [Ananio] Investigations into the solid mineral potentials of the country began as far back as 1903, with the creation of the Geological Survey Department by the colonial government. The efforts of this department led to the discovery of some solid minerals which include coal and tin. The striking of crude oil in

the late 50's led to a diversion of government and investors' attention to that specific sector, to the detriment of solid minerals. However, when the price of crude oil began to decline in the international market and the economies of most developing and even developed countries became adversely affected, the search for other sources of revenue was reactivated. In Nigeria, this meant more activity for the Geological Survey Department and the creation of the Raw Material Research and Development Council in 1987.

By 1988, a comprehensive map of Nigeria's endowment in solid minerals was produced, indicating the presence in considerable quantities of 31 solid minerals, 17 of which have been proven to exist in sufficient quantities to warrant full exploitation. Dr. Abdulahi Aliyu, chief executive of the Raw Material Research and Development Council, says that more work is being done to determine the quantities in which the other 14 minerals exist, but he contends that full exploitation of five out of the 17 with already proven commercial reserves will yield enough revenue to put petroleum into second place.

[Aliyu] Even if we take for example some few [solid minerals] like iron ore, phosphate rock, salt deposits, gold, galena, which is lead zinc, even if we take these five solid minerals and develop them into a sort of conclusive end, I am assuring you this nation will be able to generate revenue almost 10 times what we are generating from oil.

[Ananio] Apart from revenue accruing from export and commercial activities, there will also be huge savings in import bills when the raw material demands of local industries can be met locally. The two steel mills in the country, for example, require an annual supply of 4 million tonnes of iron ore with an import bill of 20 billion naira, but according to Dr. Aliyu, Nigeria's iron ore reserves have been put at 3 billion metric tons, enough to last for over 400 years at the present demand level. The story is the same whether it is for coal, salt, limestone, or tin, which is why the announcement of the creation of a Ministry of Solid Mineral Development has been well received. However, Dr. Aliyu and Dr. Chudie Egbemuke, a mining economist, advised that government goals should be very clearly defined and policy implementation proceed with clear-headedness and patriotic commitment, otherwise the wave of illegal mining and smuggling currently afflicting the solid mineral sector will intensify and, in fact, put on a cloak of legality.

[Aliyu] Government may like at least to exploit these solid minerals on its own, or government may like the private sector to be involved in the exploitation of these solid minerals.

[Egbemuke] There is a lot of money to be made by government in the mineral exploration area, but the point is the good documentation that will encourage some people to put some money into the business. [end recording]

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